



News

University News & Information

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California



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NEWS RELEASE FROM CAL POLY ARTS:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Met: Live in HD World Premiere Opera Jan. 21

THE ENCHANTED ISLAND – Saturday, January 21 at 9:55 a.m.

METROPOLITAN OPERA “LIVE IN HD” SERIES

Co-presented by CAL POLY ARTS and OPERA SAN LUIS OBISPO

The Enchanted Island is a world premiere opera that combines great music of the Baroque era with an all-new, English-language story. Early music specialist William Christie conducts his first Live in HD appearance, with a score drawn from more than 30 operas, cantatas, and oratorios by Handel, Vivaldi, Rameau, and others. Most of the works in The Enchanted Island are rarely performed in modern opera houses, which will allow audience members to experience music by the great masters of the Baroque era for the first time.

The story is a lighthearted “mash-up,” featuring the four young lovers from Shakespeare’s A Midsummer Night’s Dream shipwrecked on Prospero’s island (from The Tempest).

The gifted cast, led by Joyce DiDonato and David Daniels as the warring magicians Sycorax and Prospero, includes many of the best Baroque singers in contemporary classical music: Danielle de Niese, Luca Pisaroni, and rising stars Lisette Oropesa and Anthony Roth Costanzo.

Legendary tenor Plácido Domingo appears in a star cameo as Neptune, god of the seas: the 136th role of his career.

Run Time: 3 hours, 40 minutes; one intermission.

Local screening sponsored by Jane & Roy Gersten and Sally Young, in memory of Bob Young.

The Met: Live in HD is the Metropolitan Opera’s Peabody and Emmy Award-winning series of performances transmitted live by satellite in high-definition to more than 1400 movie theaters around the world.

Opera stars such as Renée Fleming, Natalie Dessay, Plácido Domingo, Susan Graham, Thomas Hampson, and Deborah Voigt have served as hosts for the shows, conducting live interviews with cast and crew and introducing behind-the-scenes features – allowing the worldwide HD audience an unprecedented look at what goes into the staging of an opera at one of the world's great houses. Robotic cameras and state-of-the-art technology are used to capture the action, giving a bird's-eye view and interesting perspectives on the productions.

In order to offer the The Met: Live in HD series, the Performing Arts Center underwent major technological renovations in 2010, including the installation of a new 22,000 lumen projector with high-definition capabilities. The purchase of the new equipment was made possible by the Foundation for the Performing Arts Center through a generous donation by the Hind Foundation.

The Met: Live in HD series is also made possible by a generous grant from its founding sponsor, The Neubauer Family Foundation. Bloomberg is the global corporate sponsor.

General admission/seating. Ticket prices include all parking and facility fees.

\$25 General; \$10 students with valid I.D.

Tickets may be purchased at the Performing Arts Center Ticket Office, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088.

24-hour on-line ordering is available at www.calpolyarts.org.

For more information on all Cal Poly Arts events, including audio and video samples, please visit www.calpolyarts.org.

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